

From: Saul Farber
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:38am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concern that the settlement between Microsoft and the DOJ is not in the public interest.

Particularly disturbing is the clause which requires Microsoft to open it's APIs in exchange for a license "on reasonable terms." What are the implications of this clause for the free software movement? There is a large "grassroots" organization of computer programmers who invest their own time (for NO pay) in order to make powerful software available for FREE to businesses like IBM, Sun and Oracle. These free software products need to be provided the specifications and information to interoperate with Windows and other Microsoft products, in order to provide for the possibility of successful free software products with Windows.

Thank you for your time,

Saul Farber

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